



School of Computing, Engineering, and the Built Environment Edinburgh Napier University

PHD STUDENT PROJECT

Funding and application details

Funding status: Self funded students only

Application instructions:

Detailed instructions are available at <https://blogs.napier.ac.uk/scebe-research/available-phd-student-projects/>

Prospective candidates are encouraged to contact the Director of Studies (see details below) to discuss the project and their suitability for it.

Project details

Supervisory Team:

- DIRECTOR OF STUDY: Dr Dubem Ikediashi (Email: D.Ikediashi@napier.ac.uk)
- 2ND SUPERVISOR: Dr Cletus Moobela

Subject Group: Built environment

Research Areas: Architecture, Building & Planning

Project Title: Exploring the impact of digital FM technologies on net zero commitments of the UK FM industry

Project description:

The UK facilities management (FM) industry witnessed a growth of 4.8% in 2022 and is set to see a growth rate of 5.1% in 2023. Despite this, much of the spotlight has been on decarbonisation of the building and construction industry on account of it being responsible for almost 40% of the global carbon emissions. The introduction of the ambitious 2050 net zero targets (2045) in Scotland has exacerbated increase in research on how to achieve energy efficiency in buildings. Digital innovations in the FM which enables building owners and operators in the industry to turn their portfolio data into actionable insights using technology with a view towards reducing carbon foot prints. This PhD studentship offers an exciting

opportunity to conduct research examining key digital innovations in the UK FM industry and exploring the impact it has made on the commitments to net zero targets. In this context, the successful candidate will be expected to engage with strategic industry players within the UK FM sector to collect and analyse both qualitative and quantitative data within a range of case-studies in the sector.

Applicants should submit a more detailed proposal that expands the broad outline given above. They are encouraged to contact the supervisor to further explore and discuss their proposal before submitting their application.

References:

Candidate characteristics

Education:

A first-class honours degree, or a distinction at master level, or equivalent achievements in Construction Management, Facilities Management, Real Estate, Building, Architecture, or a related built environment discipline

Subject knowledge:

- Facilities Management,
- Digital Technologies in FM

Essential attributes:

- Good degree (minimum of 2.1) in Construction Management, Facilities Management, Real Estate, Building, Architecture, or a related built environment discipline.
- Knowledge of key quantitative and qualitative research data analytical techniques
- Competent in applying a range of research methodologies
- Knowledge of real estate, facilities management, digital technologies
- Good written and oral communication skills
- Strong motivation, with evidence of independent research skills relevant to the project
- Good written and oral communication skills

Desirable attributes:

- Honest, humble, passionate, team player, hardworking, good conduct, and self-motivated
- Ability to do research independently with minimal supervision